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JUN 28 2004
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

June 28, 2004

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Moultrie Independent Telephone Company, Inc., TRS No. 802002
New Payphone Compensation Rules, CC Docket No. 96-128
Declaration That It Is Not A "Completing Carrier"

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Enclosed and filed on behalf of Moultrie Independent Telephone Company, Inc. (Moultrie, TRS No. 802002) is Moultrie's affirmative declaration that certain portions of the Federal Communications Commission's new payphone compensation rules, that become effective on July 1, 2004, do not apply to Moultrie because Moultrie is a local exchange carrier (LEC) that does not meet the definition of a "Completing Carrier," as defined in the new rules pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 64.1300(a). Because Moultrie does not meet the definition of a "Completing Carrier," it does not have to comply with the requirements of 47 C.F.R. § 64.1310(a) or (g), or with the requirements of 47 C.F.R. § 64.1320.

Please date stamp the enclosed "File Copy" and return it to the undersigned in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope. Should you have any questions concerning this request, please contact the undersigned.

Very truly yours,


Gregory V. Haledjian

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Enclosure

cc: Denise Coca, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, FCC

DECLARATION OF
MOULTRIE INDEPENDENT TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC.

On October 3, 2003, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) released a Report and Order (R&O, FCC 03-235), in response to a remand from the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit (315 F.3d 369). This R&O becomes effective on July 1, 2004 (*see* FCC Public Notice, DA 04-1309, May 11, 2004) and its purpose is to finalize a federalized payphone compensation scheme that has been in the works since 1996.

Certain portions of the FCC's new payphone compensation rules do not apply to Moultrie Independent Telephone Company, Inc. (Moultrie) because Moultrie is a local exchange carrier (LEC) that does not meet the definition of a "Completing Carrier." Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 64.1300(a), a LEC would meet the definition of a "Completing Carrier" under the new rules only if it "completes a local, coinless access code or subscriber toll-free payphone call" without the call path leaving the LEC's local network.

Moultrie is a small rural independent LEC based in Lovington, Illinois. It currently provides one access line to one payphone service provider in its service area. In no instance does Moultrie carry local coinless payphone calls completely within its telephone plant from origination at the payphone to termination at the phone number of the LEC's local customer. All coinless payphone calls (both local and toll) are routed through the payphone terminal to Moultrie's central office and then these calls are automatically routed to the toll provider (the long distance carrier, switch-based reseller or operator services provider) based on the assigned carrier identification access code or toll-free number dialed. Once a coinless payphone call leaves Moultrie's central office, the toll provider controls the routing of the call to termination. As a result, it is not possible for Moultrie to complete a local, coinless access code or subscriber toll-free payphone call. Therefore, Moultrie does not meet the definition of a "Completing Carrier" under the FCC's payphone compensation rules and it does not have to comply with the requirements of 47 C.F.R. § 64.1310(a) or (g), or with the requirements of 47 C.F.R. § 64.1320.

I do hereby declare under penalties of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, and that I am authorized by Moultrie Independent Telephone Company, Inc. to provide this Declaration.

Date: June 28, 2004


(signature)

Steven G. Bowers
(printed name)

President
(title)

Moultrie Independent Telephone Company, Inc.
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